IN THIS AGE OF SCIENCE -- MOON WALKS...

AND COMPUTERS...
FALK & BARRY

THERE ARE SOME WHO STILL BELIEVE IN GHOSTS --
WEE
EEEEEEE

--AND OTHER THINGS!
I SAW ONE!

THE PHANTOM'S SKULL CAVE IN HIS ANCESTRAL HOME -- HE SOMETIMES LIVES IN OTHER PLACES --

-- SUCH AS THE ISLE OF EDEN WHERE ALL ANIMALS LIVE IN PEACE--

--IN THE NEW WORLD--A MESA-- CALLED "WALKER'S TABLE"--FOR THE GHOST WHO WALKS!

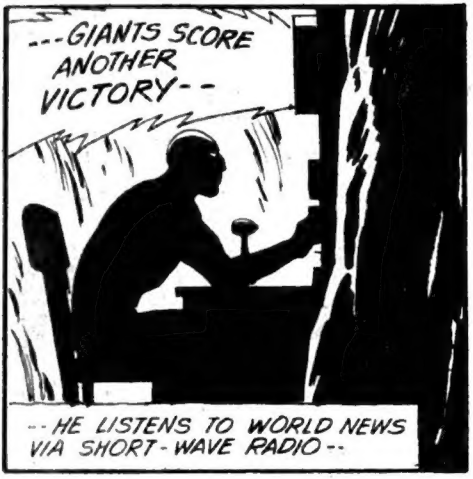
IN THE OLD WORLD--A HIDE-OUT IN AN ANCIENT CASTLE RUIN--

IN THIS LAND, OLD WAYS STILL CLING...

...AND OLD FEARS--
THOSE MARKS! --VAMPIRE!

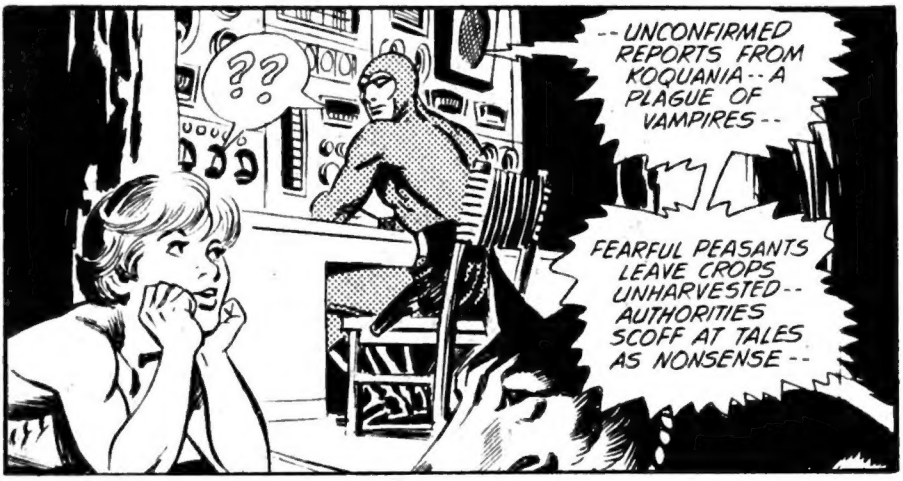
VAMPIRE

AS WE GO INTO THE SECOND HALF--
GHOST WHO WALKS LISTENS TO MAGIC BOX.
ON RARE OCCASIONS WHEN HE HAS FREE TIME --


---GIANTS SCORE ANOTHER VICTORY--
--HE LISTENS TO WORLD NEWS VIA SHORT-WAVE RADIO--

REAL GIANTS?
NO, REX --MEN PLAYING A GAME--

--CRACKLE CRACKLE--
FROM REMOTE KOQUANIA
--NEWS OF A PLAGUE OF VAMPIRES--
?


??
--UNCONFIRMED REPORTS FROM KOQUANIA--A PLAGUE OF VAMPIRES--
FEARFUL PEASANTS LEAVE CROPS UNHARVESTED--AUTHORITIES SCOFF AT TALES AS NONSENSE--

WHAT ARE VAMPIRES, UNCLE WALKER?*
IMAGINARY CREATURES, REX. BY NIGHT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO--HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
* FOR GHOST WHO WALKS.

SET IN THE CASTLE RUIN, A HEAVY IRON DOOR LEADS TO THE PHANTOM'S HIDE-OUT--

WHEN THE SECRET ENTRANCE IS OPENED--A RADIO SIGNAL IS ACTIVATED--

--TO THE PHANTOM'S SKULL CAVE IN THE DEEP WOODS--
BUZZ-- BUZZ--
?!

WHAT IS THAT--THAT FLASHING LIGHT, THAT BUZZER--?
IT MEANS SOMEONE OR SOMETHING ENTERED MY HIDE-OUT--IN KOQANIA--
BUZZ
BUZZ

ODD. WE HEARD A NEWS-CAST ABOUT VAMPIRES IN KOQANIA...

NOW -- THIS SIGNAL FROM MY HIDE-OUT IN KOQANIA SHOWS SOMEONE -- OR SOMETHING -- ENTERED --

UNCLE WALKER -- WHAT IS A VAMPIRE --?
IT'S UNREAL.. AN IMAGINARY PERSON, REX, SAID TO LIVE FOREVER ON THE BLOOD OF VICTIMS.
THAT NEWS -- THAT SIGNAL -- IS THERE A CONNECTION?

RADIO ROOM JUNGLE PATROL
THAT'S THE X BAND, A RADIO-TELEPHONE CALL FOR THE COLONEL...
WOW, THE BIG ONE -- (FROM WHERE?)

I HAVE IT.
COLONEL, RADIO THE POLICE IN KOQANIA -- K-O-Q-A-N-I-A. GOT IT?

ASK THEM ABOUT NEWS REPORTS CONCERNING VAMPIRES IN THEIR TOWN.

DID YOU SAY ...VAMPIRES?
I DID THANK YOU. (CLICK)

CABLEGRAM, CHIEF -- "ADVISE ABOUT ACCURACY OF REPORTS ABOUT VAMPIRES IN YOUR DISTRICT."
POLIZ
POLIZ
!

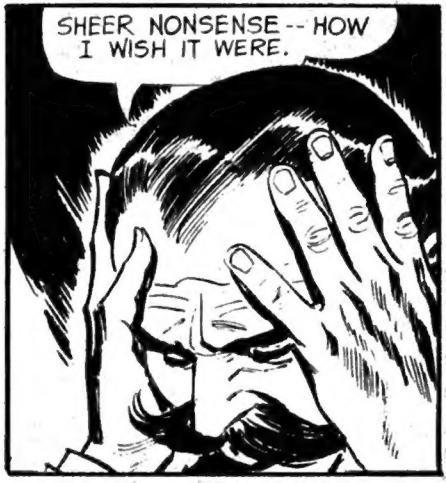
-- SIGNED "COLONEL WOROBU -- JUNGLE PATROL -- MAWITAAN."
LET ME SEE THAT!

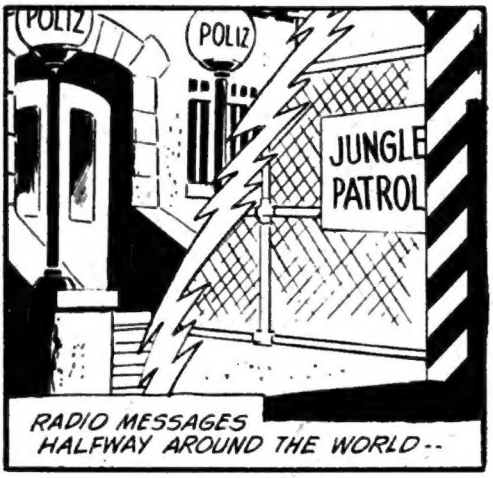
WHAT IS THE JUNGLE PATROL? WHERE IS MAWITAAN?
HERE IT IS -- CAPITAL OF BENGALLA.

TELL COLONEL WOROBU OF THE JUNGLE PATROL -- A MILLION MILES FROM HERE -- THAT VAMPIRES IN KOQANIA ARE NONE OF HIS @#*☆!! BUSINESS!
NO -- CHANGE THAT -- SAY THOSE REPORTS WERE SHEER NONSENSE.

A MILLION MILES AWAY. WHAT BUSINESS IS IT OF THEIRS?
YOUR REPLY, SIR?

ANYTHING ELSE?
NO -- GET OUT!


SHEER NONSENSE -- HOW I WISH IT WERE.


POLIZ
POLIZ
JUNGLE PATROL
RADIO MESSAGES HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD --

SERGEANT, GET THIS CHANNEL FOR ME.
YES, COLONEL,

RADIO
NO ADMITTANCE
FORBIDDEN, MAC!
HEY, HE'S CALLING X BAND -- THE 'TOP' -- WISH WE COULD LISTEN.

COLONEL WOROBU HERE -- I HAVE A REPLY FROM POLICE IN KOQANIA REGARDING YOUR INQUIRY.
?

I'M RECEIVING YOU. LET'S HAVE IT, COLONEL...

REPORTS ABOUT VAMPIRES... UNTRUE...SHEER NONSENSE... SIGNED, CHIEF, KOQANIA POLIZ.

THAT'S ALL, THANK YOU, COLONEL.

ARE THERE REALLY VAMPIRES, UNCLE WALKER?
NO, REX, THERE NEVER WERE. THEY'RE MADE UP... LIKE FAIRYTALES.

?!
CLICK

PEOPLE USED TO BELIEVE THEY REALLY EXISTED... MAYBE SOME STILL DO BELIEVE IT...
TALK & PARRY

WHY DID YOU ASK ABOUT IT?
JUST A HUNCH--
-WHICH I'M GLAD WAS WRONG--

THAT MARK ON HIS NECK!
VAMPIRE!
IN REMOTE KOQANIA...

TELL THE POLICE!

POLIZ
VAMPIRE!

!

ANOTHER ODD REPORT FROM THAT FARAWAY PLACE, KOQANIA-- THAT SEEMS TO STILL LIVE IN THE 16TH CENTURY---

-- A MURDER CASE -- A FARMER FOUND SLAIN -- PEASANTS CLAIM HE WAS KILLED BY A VAMPIRE --
?

-- A VAMPIRE?-- NICE LITTLE SPOT, KOQANIA. WANT TO TAKE A VACATION THERE? NOW FOR MORE SILLY NEWS...

SECOND NEWSCAST IN A WEEK ABOUT VAMPIRES IN KOQANIA-- THEY TREAT IT AS A JOKE -- MAYBE IT IS --
BUZZZ BUZZZ
MY WARNING LIGHT AND BUZZER WENT OFF THREE TIMES -- MEANING SOMETHING ENTERED MY HIDE-OUT IN KOQANIA.

LOCAL PEOPLE ALWAYS FEARED AND AVOIDED THAT PLACE. WHO -- OR WHAT IS GOING IN THERE NOW?

I'M GOING ON A TRIP, REX.
ABOUT THE VAMPIRES?

HOW DID YOU GUESS THAT?
I HEARD YOUR RADIO.

PLEASE TAKE ME WITH YOU, PLEASE.
NOT THIS TRIP -- YOU'VE GOT A LITTLE MATTER OF SCHOOL -- RIGHT, MISS TAGAMA?
RIGHT!
AWW-

"THERE ARE TIMES, "THEY SAY" WHEN THE PHANTOM LEAVES THE JUNGLE -

TAKE GOOD CARE OF HERO, TOMA.
IT WILL BE DONE, O GHOST WHO WALKS.

"--AND ENTERS THE TOWN LIKE AN ORDINARY MAN"
TALK & BARRY

THIS IS ONE OF THOSE TIMES."
MAWITAA AIRPORT

CAN'T TAKE THAT DOG ABOARD, SIR.
NOT A DOG, IT'S A WOLF.

ER -- WILD ANIMALS ARE NOT PERMITTED EITHER
HE'S NOT WILD. HE'S TAME AND TRAINED.

BUT, SIR, HE'S STILL A...
LOOK IN YOUR RULE BOOK. DOES IT SAY THAT TAME WOLVES ARE NOT PERMITTED?

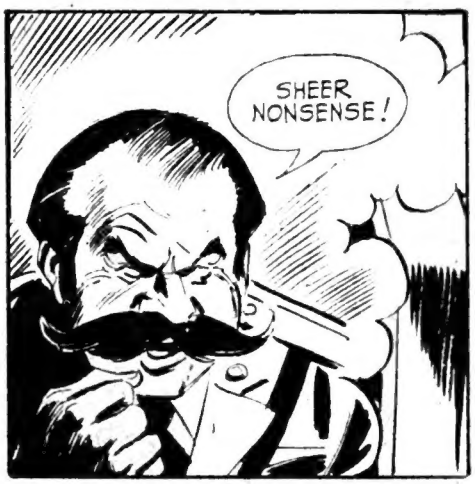
ER, DOGS -- CATS -- ER, NO, SIR --
VERY WELL. COME, DEVIL!

MAY I TAKE YOUR HAT AND COAT, SIR?
NO, THANK YOU.

ER, YOUR WOLF... WHAT DOES HE -- ER -- EAT?
HE PREFERS MEAT, BUT HE'LL EAT OYSTERS OR HEARTS OF PALM--

AN ODD ONE -- HOW DID HE GET THAT ANIMAL ABOARD?
HE TALKED TO THE AGENT. HAVE YOU HEARD HIM TALK?

THERE ARE SOME MEN NOBODY SAYS NO TO. HE'S ONE OF THEM.


SHEER NONSENSE!

THOSE REPORTS FROM KOQANIA SAY VAMPIRES COMMITTED THE MURDERS --

THE RADIO SIGNAL SHOWED SOMEONE -- OR SOMETHING -- ENTERED MY HIDE-OUT AT KOQANIA -- NEVER DID BEFORE --
BUZZ BUZZ
-- EVERYONE THERE WAS AFRAID TO -- SAYING VAMPIRES WERE SUPPOSED TO LIVE THERE.

WOW -- I'M GLAD TO SEE HIM GO. I HOPE HE DOESN'T FLY BACK WITH US.
I'M HOPING HE DOES.

YOU'RE THE TAXI? CAN YOU TAKE ME TO THE OLD CASTLE?
UH -- SURE YOU WANT TO GO THERE?

YOU KNOW ABOUT THE OLD CASTLE?
WHAT ABOUT IT?
TALK & BARRY

WHAT ABOUT IT? VAMPIRES--!

THAT'S THE OLD CASTLE-- THIS IS AS FAR AS I GO, MISTER.
THANKS.

WANT TO WAIT HERE FOR ME?
NO, SIR! IT'S ALMOST DARK --AND I WARNED YOU--

ABOUT VAMPIRES? DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT?
YOU'LL SEE! GIDDAP!
?

THE PHANTOM NEARS HIS HIDE-OUT IN THE CASTLE RUINS OF KOQANIA...
FALK & BARRY

NO ONE IN SIGHT...INCLUDING VAMPIRES. THE ENTRANCE TO OUR CELLAR IS HERE...

IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANYONE HAS BEEN DOWN HERE.

HMM--THE LOCK IS BROKEN! SOMEONE HAS BEEN IN HERE.

CREAK
CREAK

HERE IS THE RADIO SWITCH THAT WARNS ME WHEN THE DOOR IS OPEN-- I'LL TURN IT OFF--

THIS WAS AN OLD TORTURE CHAMBER...NOT A PLEASANT PLACE...

THIS LAMP HAS KEROSINE IN IT... DID I LEAVE IT THIS WAY-- OR SOMEONE ELSE--?

NO SIGN THAT ANYONE'S BEEN HERE... MAYBE BOYS BROKE THE LOCK--
I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY GRANDFATHER CHOSE THIS PLACE AS A HIDE-OUT--SO REMOTE-- SO DISMAL--

PEOPLE AVOIDED THIS PLACE BECAUSE OF ITS REPUTATION AS AN ANCIENT TORTURE CHAMBER.

ALSO VAMPIRES THAT LEGEND SAID LIVED HERE...THAT MAKES FOR PRIVACY HERE!

DEVIL, THIS IS AN OLD TORTURE DEVICE CALLED AN IRON MAIDEN-- VICTIMS WERE PUT INSIDE--

THE RACK-- WHERE VICTIMS WERE STRETCHED--

THE IRON BOOT --THE VICTIM'S FOOT WAS PUT INSIDE AND THEN -- UGH--

NOT A PLEASANT PLACE -- NO WONDER PEOPLE STAYED AWAY-- BUT WHAT ABOUT THE VAMPIRES?
WOOF!
WHAT IS IT, DEVIL?

WHAT HAVE YOU FOUND, DEVIL--SHOE PRINT? HMM--NOT MINE--
WOOF--

MANY FOOTPRINTS--DIFFERENT SIZES--MANY PEOPLE WERE HERE--THOSE TORCHES WERE BURNING NOT TOO LONG AGO
WHAT'S THAT THERE--A COFFIN?
FALK & BARRY

AN OLD COFFIN -- I DON'T REMEMBER THIS ON MY LAST VISIT HERE --

I WOULD HAVE REMEMBERED THIS -- IS IT A COFFIN? LET'S SEE WHAT'S INSIDE --
FALK & BARRY

THIS COFFIN WASN'T HERE ON MY LAST VISIT -- WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT DOES HE SEE?

?
?

DEVIL -- I'M NOT CERTAIN WHAT I EXPECTED TO FIND IN A COFFIN -- BUT NOT THIS --!

--- A WAX DUMMY!

IS IT MEANT TO FRIGHTEN ANYONE WHO MIGHT WANDER IN HERE --- LIKE ME --?

VERY LIFE-LIKE --- WHY WOULD ANYONE PUT IT IN THIS COFFIN?

-- BECAUSE I WOULD THINK IT WAS A REAL VAMPIRE? PERHAPS --

A WAX DUMMY -- PRETENDING TO BE A VAMPIRE? WHAT'S IT MEAN, DEVIL?

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE WOULD MEET IN THIS ANCIENT TORTURE CHAMBER? WOULD-BE VAMPIRES --?

THERE WERE TOO MANY FOOTPRINTS IN THE DUST -- TORCHES RECENTLY BURNED -- IT MEANS PEOPLE WERE HERE --

NO MORE ANSWERS HERE TO THE MYSTERY OF THAT WAX DUMMY IN THE COFFIN -- OR THE "VAMPIRES", DEVIL --

WE'LL START WITH THAT POLICE CHIEF WHO SAID THAT THE VAMPIRES ARE "SHEER NONSENSE."

I'LL PUT THIS BROKEN LOCK BACK ON THE DOOR -- AS IT WAS.

WE'LL GO INTO TOWN, DEVIL. MAYBE WE CAN FIND ANSWERS THERE ABOUT THE "PLAGUE OF VAMPIRES."

NOW?
NOT YET!
SOMETHING LIVES HERE, DEVIL -- THAT DUMMY DIDN'T GET INTO THAT COFFIN BY ITSELF!

THE MAN WITH THE DOG -- HMM --
TALK BY BARRY

YOU WANT TO SEE THE CHIEF? WHAT FOR?
INFORMATION.
CHIEF
SGT. MALO

ABOUT WHAT?
I'LL ASK HIM.

HE'S BUSY.
SO I SEE.
CHIEF
ZZZZZ

I TOLD YOU, THE CHIEF'S BUSY.
IN CONFERENCE? I'LL WAIT.
ZZZZZ
CHIEF

A WISE GUY -- PROWLING AROUND, STICKING YOUR NOSE IN OTHER PEOPLE'S AFFAIRS!
HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING?

ER -- YOU'RE A STRANGER -- NOT MANY COME HERE. WE GET REPORTS.
WHAT DID THEY TELL YOU?

IF YOU'RE WISE, YOU'LL GET OUT OF HERE FAST.
AND IF I'M NOT -- AND STAY?

YOU SOUND LIKE A TROUBLEMAKER.
WHY? BECAUSE I'VE ASKED TO SEE THE CHIEF?
SGT. MALO

BECAUSE YOU TRESPASSED ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.
THE CASTLE RUINS? WHO OWNS IT?

AN ABSENTEE LANDOWNER -- WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
NOTHING.

THE "ABSENTEE LANDOWNER" IS ME!

GET OUT OF TOWN IN ONE HOUR--OR GET LOCKED UP.
THANK YOU, SERGEANT MALO, I'LL BE GOING.

HE SCARED EASY-- HE FORGOT HE WANTED TO TALK TO THE CHIEF-- FORGOT FAST.

THE POLICE CHIEF -- HE'S BUSY ALL RIGHT-- BUSY WITH THAT BOTTLE --PSST--

HEY-- (HIC) --(BELCH)--

WHAT'S -- GOING ON? (HIC -- BELCH)

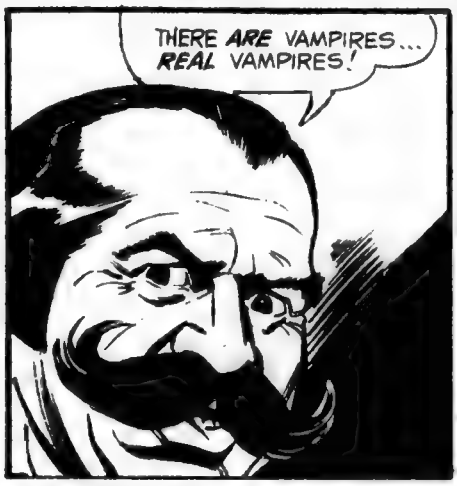
WHO ARE YOU? (HIC) -- WHAT DO YOU WANT? (BELCH) --UH--!
I'VE COME TO ASK ABOUT THE VAMPIRES IN THIS TOWN. ARE THEY REAL-- OR PHONY?

YOU CAN'T BREAK INTO MY OFFICE -- (HIC -- BELCH) --
I CAN AND HAVE, CHIEF.
CHIEF

WHO ARE YOU? (HIC-- BELCH)-- WHAT DO YOU WANT? --UH!
TALK & BARRY
LET ME HAVE THAT GUN, CHIEF. IT MIGHT GO OFF--

UH--
WHAT ABOUT THE VAMPIRES IN YOUR TOWN-- TRUE OR FALSE?

VAMPIRES--UH (HIC--BELCH) WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
ALL THOSE NEWS REPORTS FROM THIS TOWN... "A PLAGUE OF VAMPIRES"... FARMERS MURDERED MYSTERIOUSLY-- TRUE?


THERE ARE VAMPIRES... REAL VAMPIRES!

THEY COME AT NIGHT... BULLETS CAN'T KILL THEM...
WHOA, YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT, CHIEF-- GO ON.

CHIEF, YOU SAY VAMPIRES ARE REAL-- BULLETS CAN'T KILL THEM? HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I SAW ONE-- LAST NIGHT!

"ON OLD COUNTRY ROAD--I SAW THIS--THING--BENT OVER A VICTIM."

I FIRED ONCE--TWICE-- THE THING LAUGHED AT ME!
HA HA HO HO

I FIRED FIVE BULLETS--I COULDN'T MISS THAT CLOSE--
HA HA HA HA HA HA
"THEN IT STARTED FOR ME."
I RAN AS FAST AS I COULD--I--THE POLICE CHIEF--
NO WONDER... YES, YOU FIRED FIVE SHOTS, ONE LEFT--
I ADMIT I WAS SCARED TO DEATH --I RAN LIKE A FOOL--
I TELL YOU I FIRED FIVE BULLETS INTO THAT THING --NO EFFECT--
WITH THIS GUN-- ONE SHOT LEFT--
YES, THAT GUN--SAY, WHO ARE YOU (HIC--BELCH) --BREAKING INTO MY OFFICE--TAKING MY GUN--
I TOLD HIM TO GET OUT OF TOWN OR GET LOCKED UP!
CHIEF
NOW HE'LL GET IT!
CHIEF, TELL YOUR SGT. MALO TO GET LOST.
HE'S A TROUBLE-MAKER, A TRES-PASSER--
ER, HE KNOWS THE LAW--
I HAVE NO WISH TO BE LOCKED UP OR LEAVE TOWN.
I CHARGE YOU WITH BREAKING AND ENTERING --AND RESISTING AN OFFICER.
WE HATE TO KILL STRANGERS IN THIS TOWN--SOMETIMES IT IS NECESSARY.
DO YOU INTEND TO KILL ME, SERGEANT, FOR GOOD REASON?
NO, MALO--!

YES, I INTEND TO KILL YOU, STRANGER--YOU TRESPASS, YOU BROKE IN HERE, ASSAULTED THE CHIEF!
HE DIDN'T ASSAULT ME--

WHOEVER YOU ARE--IT DOESN'T MATTER--I WARNED YOU TO GET OUT OF TOWN--
DEVIL--

GO, DEVIL!
?!

UH (HIC--BELCH)
*@#☆!!

"NEVER THREATEN THE PHANTOM"--OLD JUNGLE SAYING--

YOU HURT SGT. MALO--(HIC--BELCH)
RIGHT, CHIEF, HE TRIED TO SHOOT ME IN COLD BLOOD--FOR NO GOOD REASON--
THAT NEEDS LOOKING INTO--AS DO YOUR VAMPIRES!

GONE--MOVED SO FAST--WAS HE HERE--OR DID I DREAM IT? (HIC--BELCH)
FALK & BARRY

NO, THERE'S MALO KNOCKED DOWN--(HIC--BELCH)--WHAT'S THAT ON HIS JAW?

WHAT'S THAT MARK ON MALO'S JAW? (HIC) -- LOOKS LIKE A SKULL --
HE'S STILL BREATHING -- IT'S A WONDER -- NEVER SAW A MAN HIT SO HARD --
TALK BARRY

HE SEEMED LIKE A NICE FELLOW -- WONDER WHO HE WAS (--BELCH)

GUESS I'LL HAVE TO ARREST HIM -- EVEN THOUGH MALO HAD IT COMING -- (HIC - BELCH)

NIGHT, AS THE PHANTOM EXPLORES THE COUNTRYSIDE --
LOOK LIKE RICH FARMS -- ALL DESERTED --

?

WHY ARE ALL THESE FARMS DESERTED? WHERE HAS EVERYBODY GONE?
AWAY! LIKE ME, EVERYBODY SOLD THEIR PLACES FOR A SONG -- JUST TO GET AWAY -- THE VAMPIRES!
FATHER, DON'T TALK TO HIM!

YES, MISTER --
YOU SOLD YOUR FARM BECAUSE OF VAMPIRES?
FATHER, YOU DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS -- OR WHAT HE IS!

MY WIFE MADE ME SELL -- SHE COULDN'T SLEEP -- WHO COULD SLEEP WITH THOSE THINGS ROAMING THE HILLS --

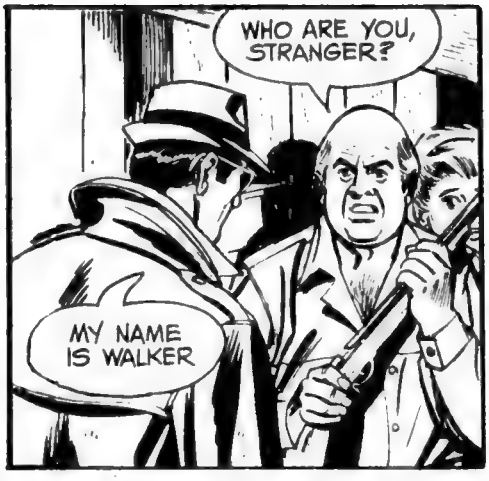
WHO DID YOU SELL THE FARM TO?
STRANGERS CAME AROUND -- MADE AN OFFER -- PRACTICALLY NOTHING --
I DIDN'T WANT TO SELL, BUT SHE CONVINCED ME --
FATHER -- LET'S GO!

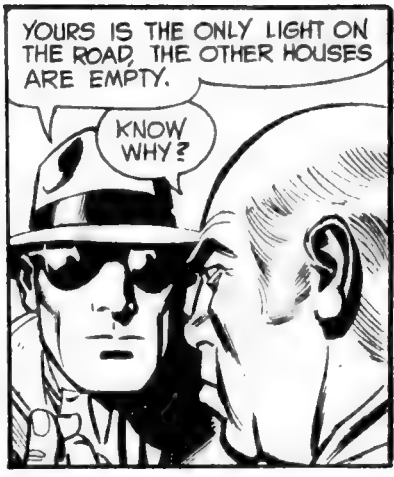
THAT MAN SOLD HIS FARM FOR ALMOST NOTHING...BECAUSE OF HIS FEAR OF VAMPIRES--

SOLD YOUR FARM, TOO-- LEAVING?
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, MISTER--

YOU SOLD IT FOR ALMOST NOTHING... BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF VAMPIRES?
NO TIME TO WASTE, OLAN! LET'S GO!

WAS HE -- ONE OF THEM?
NO, THANK GOODNESS -- FOR A MINUTE I WAS AFRAID--


WHO ARE YOU, STRANGER?
MY NAME IS WALKER


YOURS IS THE ONLY LIGHT ON THE ROAD, THE OTHER HOUSES ARE EMPTY.
KNOW WHY?

THE VAMPIRES?.. DO YOU BELIEVE IN THEM?
DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE -- WE'RE AFRAID -- BUT I'M NOT LEAVING HERE, AND I'M NOT SELLING TO THEM.
HERE THEY COME AGAIN!
FALK & BARRY

CITY MEN -- BEEN HERE TWICE -- TRYING TO BUY THIS PLACE -- TOLD THEM NO.

MY FAMILY'S HAD THIS PLACE FOR SIX GENERATIONS -- I TOLD THEM, VAMPIRES OR NO VAMPIRES, I'M NOT LEAVING!

--WE'RE HERE TO MAKE OUR FINAL OFFER -- THREE THOUSAND...
THREE? IT'S WORTH THIRTY! -- BUT I'M NOT SELLING!
KARL, SELL -- I CAN'T STAY HERE ANOTHER NIGHT!

KARL, FOR MY SAKE, SELL--LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
WELL---
KARL, STICK TO YOUR GUNS -- THESE MEN ARE TRYING TO CHEAT YOU.
CHEAT? WHO ARE YOU?
A STRANGER. HE'S GOT NOTHING TO SAY HERE--GO AWAY!
DEAR, HE'S TRYING TO HELP US...
YOU HEARD THE LADY--YOU GOT NOTHING TO SAY HERE--GET OUT!
WE'RE HONEST BUSINESS MEN. YOU CALLED US CHEATERS.
I REGRET I CALLED YOU THAT--I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING WORSE--
WEREN'T YOU EVER TOLD NOT TO POINT?
IT'S NOT POLITE!
!!
THEY'RE GONE--YOUR FAULT!
THEY TRIED TO CHEAT YOU--
HE'S ONLY TRYING TO HELP US.
WHY DID YOU LET THOSE MEN GO? WHY DIDN'T YOU SELL? I CAN'T STAND THIS PLACE--NOT ANOTHER NIGHT--
IT'S ALL THAT STRANGER'S FAULT--HE--WHERE DID HE GO? HE WAS RIGHT HERE!
IS THAT HIM OUT THERE?
NO--KARL--IT'S THEM--VAMPIRES!

VAMPIRES!

COME OUT-- WE WANT YOU.

HO HO HA HA HEE HEE-
FOOL! SAVE YOUR BULLETS, THEY CAN'T HURT US!

COME OUT... OR WE'LL BURN YOUR HOUSE DOWN.

COME OUT... COME OUT...
GO AWAY OR I'LL KILL YOU!

YOU CAN'T KILL US, STUPID MAN!

THEY SET THE ROOF ON FIRE! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
NO.. THEY'RE OUT THERE... I'D RATHER DIE HERE!

COME OUTSIDE...OR FRY AND DIE!
HA HA HA HA HA HA

AT THAT MOMENT... OUTSIDE...
TALK BARRY

WAIT, VAMPIRES... DON'T RUN AWAY... I WANT YOU!
!
!

IS THAT ONE OF THEM?
NO--

WAIT, VAMPIRES-- DON'T YOU WANT ME?

YES!

---HERE I AM!
!!

!

!

HERE ARE YOUR VAMPIRES.
--THE WALKING DEAD!

UGH, I DON'T WANT TO LOOK AT THEM-- THE WALKING DEAD!
ARE THEY -- DEAD?

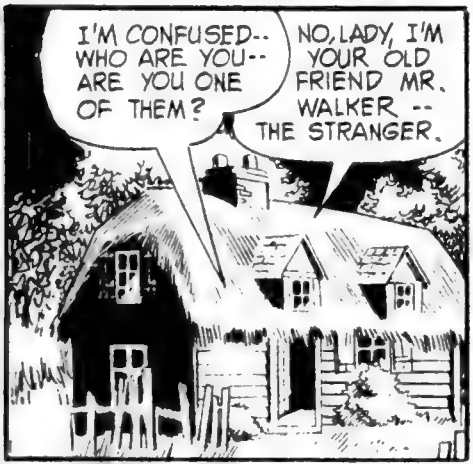
NOT DEAD-- RESTING-- THEY'LL WAKE UP SOON--

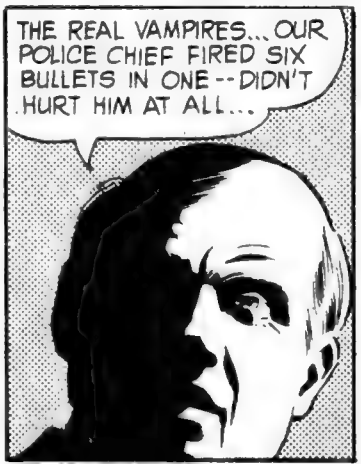
EVER SEE THEM BEFORE?
?!

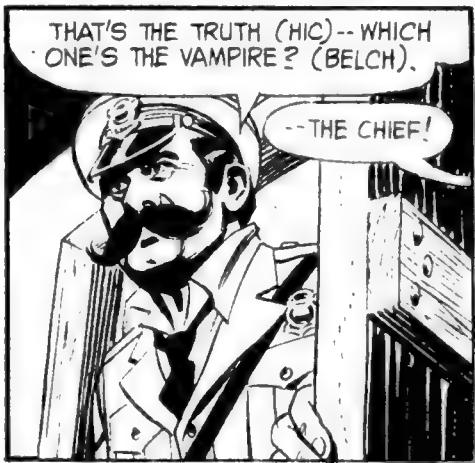
UH--UH--
THOSE ARE THE--VAMPIRES?
THE MEN WHO TRIED TO BUY OUR FARM!
THE MEN WHO TRIED TO STEAL YOUR FARM!

THOSE AREN'T THE REAL ONES -- THEY'RE IMITATING VAMPIRES --TO SCARE US!

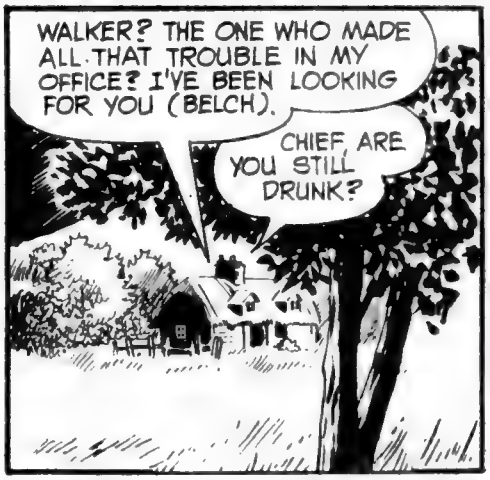
WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE THESE AREN'T THE "REAL VAMPIRES"?
BECAUSE THEY'RE ONLY THE RASCALS WHO TRIED TO STEAL MY FARM.


I'M CONFUSED-- WHO ARE YOU-- ARE YOU ONE OF THEM?
NO, LADY, I'M YOUR OLD FRIEND MR. WALKER -- THE STRANGER.


THE REAL VAMPIRES... OUR POLICE CHIEF FIRED SIX BULLETS IN ONE--DIDN'T HURT HIM AT ALL...


THAT'S THE TRUTH (HIC)--WHICH ONE'S THE VAMPIRE? (BELCH).
--THE CHIEF!

I HEARD NOISE UP HERE.. IS THAT THE (HIC) VAMPIRE?
NO, ER, THAT'S ER-- MR. WALKER.

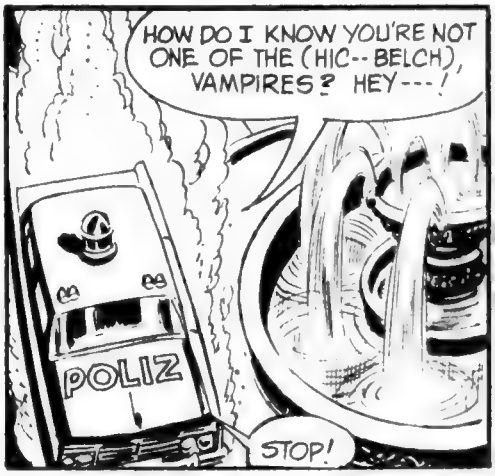

WALKER? THE ONE WHO MADE ALL THAT TROUBLE IN MY OFFICE? I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU (BELCH).
CHIEF, ARE YOU STILL DRUNK?

DRUNK? I'M SOBER AS A JUDGE (HIC-- BELCH).
GOOD. THEN COME WITH ME TO CATCH THE REAL VAMPIRES.

KARL, TIE UP THOSE TWO PHONY VAMPIRES AND GUARD THEM-- I'M TAKING THE CHIEF TO FIND THE "REAL VAMPIRES."
?

YOU KNOW THE REAL ONES?-- HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
MY WOLF.
POLIZ

YOUR WOLF? (HIC-- BELCH.)
STOP WASTING TIME, CHIEF. YOU WANT THE VAMPIRES OR NOT?
KARL, WHO WAS HE?
ALL I KNOW IS WHAT HE SAID-- MR. WALKER.


HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THE (HIC-- BELCH), VAMPIRES? HEY---!
POLIZ
STOP!

YOU'RE STILL DRUNK AND NO USE TO ANYBODY--
ME DRUNK? WHY, YOU-- HEY--

SOBER UP!
--SPLUTTER --SPLUTTER-- BLUB--

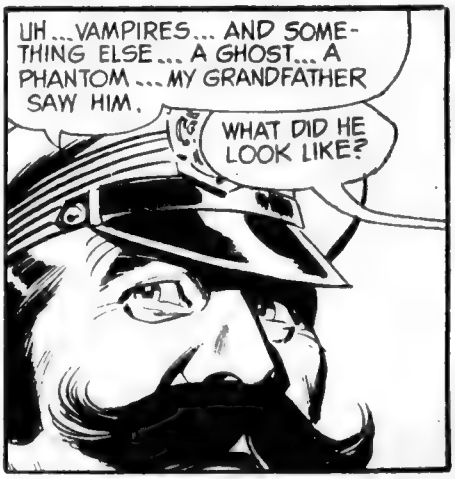
UH-- I'M SOBER NOW-- ANYBODY SEE ME?
NO. YOUR DIGNITY IS INTACT. LET'S MOVE. VAMPIRES DON'T WAIT ALL NIGHT!
FALK & BARRY

I'M NOT A DRINKING MAN -- BUT THIS VAMPIRE BUSINESS HAS BEEN DRIVING ME CRAZY --
I CAN IMAGINE, CHIEF.

YOU WANT TO GO -- TO THE CASTLE RUINS -- AT NIGHT? NO, SIREE -- IT'S HAUNTED!
THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING, CHIEF!

WE GET OUT HERE!
HEY, DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

CAN'T GO TO THE CASTLE AT NIGHT! IT'S HAUNTED!
BY VAMPIRES, CHIEF?


UH... VAMPIRES... AND SOMETHING ELSE... A GHOST... A PHANTOM... MY GRANDFATHER SAW HIM.
WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE?

GRANDPA SAID HE WAS HOODED... HEY... YOU'RE... AH, THAT'S SILLY, IT WAS 50 YEARS AGO...
IF THERE'S A GHOST, WE'LL FIND IT...
HE'S TALKING ABOUT MY GRANDFATHER!

CHIEF, THERE'S A STAIRS BELOW THAT BIG PILLAR. WE'LL MEET THERE.
MEET? WAIT -- WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I'LL GO AROUND BACK OF THE RUINS.
UH... WHAT IF I MEET... A VAMPIRE? WHAT'LL I DO?

CALL A COP.

A COP? I'M THE CHIEF... UH... HE'S GONE!

HE TOLD ME... TO MEET HIM AT THE STAIRS...NEAR THAT PILLAR.
UH... WHAT IF I MEET A...VAMPIRE?

"I MET ONE... ONCE. I FIRED... SIX TIMES! DIDN'T HURT HIM!"
HA HA HO
!

HERE HE COMES.
YES.

UH.. IF I SEE A VAMPIRE I'LL... NO... MUST BE BRAVE... WON'T FAINT.. JUST SHOOT!

OHH--

UHHH...

A SHOT! THE CHIEF?

WAS THAT SHOT FROM THE CHIEF'S GUN?

HE'S NOT HERE AT OUR MEETING PLACE... NOT IN SIGHT. LET'S GO BACK WHERE WE STARTED.

WE LEFT HIM HERE. HE WENT STRAIGHT AHEAD...
HE GOT THIS FAR. GRASS IS FLATTENED OUT... A STRUGGLE...

THE CHIEF WAS ATTACKED HERE. HE FIRED ONE SHOT...THEN WAS TAKEN AWAY...

...TAKEN INTO THE RUINS THROUGH THAT DOOR...
GRRR...
YES, DEVIL, I KNOW THEY'RE WATCHING US...

THEY SHOULD JUMP AT ANY MOMENT...

ON SCHEDULE.

UH...
EEEEE...

LOOK EXACTLY ALIKE. IDENTICAL TWINS-- OR IDENTICAL PLASTIC MASKS--?

AND BEHIND THE PHANTOM...

AS THE "THING" BEHIND THE PHANTOM AIMS--

THE PHANTOM WHIRLS... IN THE SAME SPLIT SECOND, DRAWS AND FIRES...

UH--HAVE YOU...EYES ..IN THE BACK.. OF YOUR HEAD?

DROP YOUR GUN... OR THE CHIEF IS A DEAD MAN.
?!

DROP YOUR GUN, OR THE CHIEF DIES.
DO WHAT HE SAYS. THEY.. MEAN IT!

INSTANTLY HE IS SURROUNDED BY THE "THINGS"--

THIS... IS THE PHANTOM.. THE GHOST WHO WALKS? WE WAITED ... YOU CAME...
HE IS LASHED TO THE RACK-- A MEDIEVAL TORTURE DEVICE...

AS FOR YOU.. PHANTOM... MAN WHO CANNOT DIE.. ISN'T THAT THE STORY?
BUT NONE OF US DIE ..IF WE GET... --FRESH BLOOD.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THE CHIEF. WE WILL SAVE HIM... FOR LATER...
FALK & BARRY
UHHH... THINGS... VAMPIRES...

CREAK
CREAK
WE WILL SEE.. HOW LONG YOU LAST.. ON THE RACK.. IT WILL STRETCH AND S-T-R-E-T-C-H YOU...

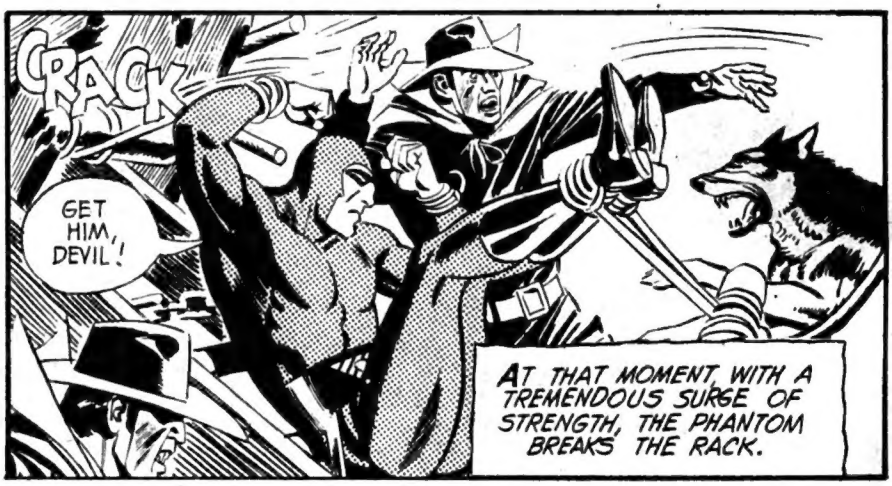
FIRST CHANCE WE'VE HAD TO TRY THIS RACK. STRETCHES.. PULLS A MAN.. APART
..THOUGH WE MIGHT RECONSIDER..

WHOEVER YOU REALLY ARE - YOU ARE CLEVER. WE COULD USE A MAN LIKE YOU... WELL?
WORK WITH VERMIN LIKE YOU?
FALK & BARRY

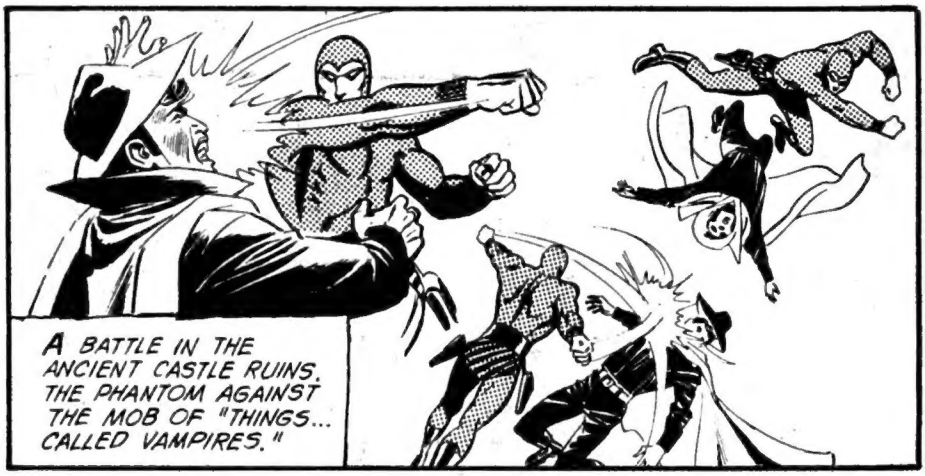
FOOL... YOU PREFER THIS?
CREAK... CREAK...
NO.. STOP...

CREAK CREAK
REFUSE TO JOIN US... RATHER DIE? CHOICE IS YOURS...
FALK & BARRY
I REFUSE BOTH...
THE PHANTOM WHISTLES...

?!
A BIG GRAY FORM LEAPS INTO THE CHAMBER... LONG TEETH GLEAMING...


CRACK
GET HIM, DEVIL!
AT THAT MOMENT, WITH A TREMENDOUS SURGE OF STRENGTH, THE PHANTOM BREAKS THE RACK.

IN THE NEXT SPLIT SECOND, HE FREES LEGS AND ARMS...


A BATTLE IN THE ANCIENT CASTLE RUINS. THE PHANTOM AGAINST THE MOB OF "THINGS... CALLED VAMPIRES."

I GOT ONE!

THIS IS THE ONE YOU GOT, CHIEF. KNOW HIM, UNDER HIS PLASTIC MASK?
MY ASSISTANT... SGT. MALO!
☆◎#m!!

TALK BARRY
#:*@*!!
--THE "THINGS" ARE NOT VAMPIRES?
PLAIN CROOKS. TRYING TO SCARE PEOPLE AWAY AND BUY THEIR FARMS CHEAP.

WHY? ARE THEY FARMERS?
NO. TELL HIM, SGT. MALO.
OIL... #@*@!!

THEY DISCOVERED OIL HERE. KEPT IT SECRET... TRYING TO CHEAT THE PEOPLE, CHIEF.
I GET IT! THE CROOKS!

NOT VAMPIRES? TRYING TO SCARE FARMERS AWAY, SO THEY COULD BUY LAND CHEAP.. TO GET THE OIL!
THAT'S IT, CHIEF! NOT A PRETTY STORY...

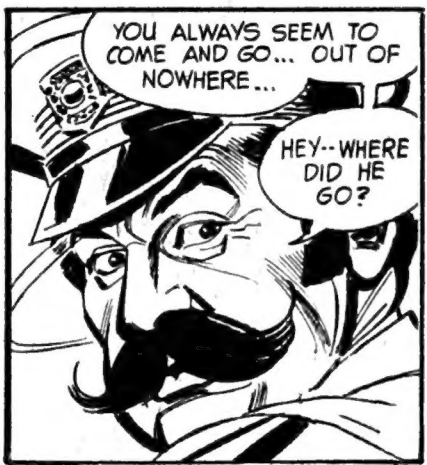
WAIT! HOW ABOUT WHEN I SHOT THAT "THING" WITH MY OWN GUN SIX TIMES--?
HO HO HA HA

YOUR "FAITHFUL" ASSISTANT, SGT. MALO, PUT BLANKS IN YOUR GUN.
AH-HA! HMM.. TWO FARMERS... KILLED BY YOU "VAMPIRES." YOU ALL FACE MURDER CHARGES!

DAILY RECORD
KOQANIA "VAMPIRE" HOAX REVEALED
GANG USED SCARE TACTICS TO DRIVE FARMERS OUT.
DISCOVERED LARGE OIL FIELD UNDER LAND: OWNERS WILL BENEFIT..

NO VAMPIRES! OIL!
WE'LL ALL BE RICH!
THE FARMERS RETURN...

STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHO YOU ARE... HOW YOU GOT INTO ALL THIS... AND WHY...
DON'T EVEN TRY, CHIEF...


YOU ALWAYS SEEM TO COME AND GO... OUT OF NOWHERE...
HEY--WHERE DID HE GO?